## HARRISON HOUGH.

JANUARY 30, 1857.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Benson, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, made the following

## REPORT.

The Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of Harrison Hough, late a purser's clerk in the navy, praying for compensation for time lost by sickness, have had the same under consideration, and report:

That the prayer of said petition ought not to be granted, for the reasons assigned by the Secretary of the Navy, in a letter dated January 10, 1857, which is made a part of this report.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, January 10, 1857.

SIR: Your letter of the 7th instant, enclosing the petition of Mr. Harrison Hough, having been referred to the Fourth Auditor of the Treasury, he reports to me that he does "not know of any instance in which pay has been allowed to a person as purser's clerk under circumstances similar to those of the petitioner. A purser is allowed by law but one clerk. Mr. Hough had been clerk to Mr. Fauntleroy, the purser of the frigate Savannah, but he had been removed, and another appointed in his place, who did the duty and received the pay. Mr. Hough had ceased to be attached to the vessel in that or any other capacity, and therefore was not entitled under the existing laws to any compensation." The petition is herewith returned.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant, J. C. DOBBIN.

Hon. Samuel P. Benson, Chairman Committee Naval Affairs, H. R.